

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 08459 220714Z

20

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /064 W

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R 220547Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9356

INFO AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMCONSUL BRISBANE

AMCONSUL PERTH

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EALR, ECON, ELAB, EGEN, AS

SUBJ: SEPTEMBER 1976 QUARTERLY WAGE INDEXATION DECISION

REF: CANBERRA 5847

1. CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION COMMISSION ISSUED NOVEMBER 22  
DECISION ON ADJUSTMENT OF AUSTRALIAN WAGE AWARDS IN LIGHT OF  
2.2 PCT CPI INCREASE FOR CALENDAR QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER  
30, 1976.

2. COMMISSION GRANTED ACROSS-THE-BOARD INCREASE 2.2 PCT  
(FULL AMOUNT OF SEPTEMBER QUARTER CPI INCREASE) IN CONTRAST  
TO SO-CALLED "PLATEAU" APPROACH ADOPTED IN MAY AND AUGUST  
AND ARGUED FOR AGAIN BY GOVERNMENT AND EMPLOYERS IN MOST  
RECENT HEARINGS. ON OTHER HAND, COMMISSION REFUSED GRANT  
ADDITIONAL 2 PCT INCREASE WHICH LABOR HAD ARGUED FOR AS A  
"CATCH-UP" FOR THE TWO QUARTERS WHEN THE PLATEAU APPROACH  
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PAGE 02 CANBER 08459 220714Z

ADOPTED.

3. COMMENT: COMMISSION IN ITS DECISION DISCUSSED CONTINUED DEPRESSED STATE OF AUSTRALIAN ECONOMY, BUT IT GAVE NO EXPLANATION WHY IN VIEW OF THIS SITUATION IT GRANTING FULL INDEXATION NOW, WHEN IT HAD USED POOR ECONOMIC SITUATION TO JUSTIFY PLATEAU IN MAY AND AUGUST. WE CAN ONLY CONCLUDE THAT UNION THREATS TO ABANDON SUPPORT FOR INDEXATION IF FULL INDEXATION NOT GRANTED, CAUSED COMMISSION SHY AWAY FROM PLATEAU CONCEPT THIS TIME. COMMISSION MAY ALSO HAVE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION FACT THAT DUE TO DELAYS WHICH WILL BE CAUSED BY FORTHCOMING RESTRUCTURING OF CPI IT EXPECTED BE LATE MARCH 1977 BEFORE INDEXATION ADJUSTMENT.  
HARGROVE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, QUARTERLY REPORTS, WAGE RATES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 NOV 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976CANBER08459  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760433-0699  
**From:** CANBERRA  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 76 CANBERRA 5847  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**

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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SEPTEMBER 1976 QUARTERLY WAGE INDEXATION DECISION  
**TAGS:** EALR, ECON, EGEN, ELAB, AS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006